



DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

OCT 31 3 13 PM '03

Winchester Fire and Rescue

FIRE, RESCUE, HAZARDOUS MATERIALS & EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS

L. A. MILLER, FIRE CHIEF
FRANK E. WRIGHT, DEPUTY CHIEF
A. FRANKLIN MOORE, CAPTAIN

231 EAST PICCADILLY STREET, SUITE 330, WINCHESTER, VIRGINIA 22601

PHONE (540) 662-2298

FAX (540) 542-1318

TDD (540) 662-1318

October 21, 2003

OCT 30 2003

FCC-RECEIVED

Marlene Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

0255

Dear Madame Secretary:

I write today to urge you to take action regarding the pressing problem of public safety interference in the 800 MHz spectrum. This interference to public safety radios is a dangerous reality for first responders and the communities we proudly protect.

It is estimated that more than 350 public safety agencies will experience interference this year – the highest single-year total to date. As you know, this interference, by hampering the ability of public safety officials to communicate clearly, prevents firefighters from performing their jobs as well as they can and should. This puts lives at risk.

I know that there are other proposals to resolve the problem of interference at 800 MHz. Having looked at these, however, I feel that the Consensus Plan represents the most lasting and proactive solution to interference. By realigning the spectrum, public safety interference will be virtually eliminated. The Consensus Plan also provides additional spectrum to public safety for future communications platforms. Perhaps equally important, the Consensus Plan is the only plan that is fully funded – imposing no cost to the public safety community or the American taxpayer.

It is for that reason that I would like to express my support for the Consensus Plan and express my hope that you and your colleagues do the same.

Sincerely,

L. A. Miller, Fire & Rescue Chief

cc: Chairman Powell
Commissioner Abernathy
Commissioner Adelstein
Commissioner Copps
Commissioner Martin
Representative Frank Wolfe

No. of Copies rec'd /
List ABCDE